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AD HOC REQUIREMENTS COMMITTEE ON PROJECT AQUATONE (ARC)

Minutes of Meeting Held in DCI Conference Room,
Administration Building, Central Intelligence Agency
at 1400, 27 March 1956
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P R E S E N T

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Mr. Arthur C. Lundahl, CIA/ORR

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Exploitation of ELINT and VHF Packages:

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1. [REDACTED] briefed the Committee on the nature and capabilities of the equipment involved in the above subject. He pointed out that: (a) system one will be available at the start of operations and system three by 1 June; (b) that agreed ELINT requirements prepared by Services CIA-ELINT Committee (SCEC)* had already been made available to the intelligence officer of the project; (c) that it should be kept in mind that with regard to the systems one and three, there was relatively little flexibility; and (d) that this latter fact combined with the fact that initially this material would be a by-product rather than the primary product of missions would seem to indicate that the requirements thus far prepared would be adequate. He indicated that a more careful consideration of requirements would be necessary when the large ELINT package (system 4) was completed and in use, for at

*Established by agreement of CIA and the Service Intelligence Chiefs

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such time missions using the package would be primarily focused on ELINT observation. He noted that duplicate tapes would be made in the field promptly, one copy to be retained for immediate exploitation for operations data which would be transmitted to headquarters promptly for use in operational decisions, and that one tape could be made available to the theater if a decision to do that were made. He pointed out that it is intended that the exploitation of headquarters will be handled by the Technical Processing Center (TPC)* when it is established, pointing out that a temporary facility will be established at Barton Hall if the TPC is not ready. The armed services could either obtain a duplicate tape or associate themselves with the temporary facility at Barton Hall. [REDACTED] said that plans were well advanced for the exploitation at Barton Hall, if necessary. 25X1A9a

2. Action: The following agreements and understandings were reached:

a. In order not to disturb what seems a practical and working arrangement of the SCEC and yet to permit the Ad Hoc Committee to discharge its responsibility, [REDACTED] will distribute 25X1A9a to the members of the SCEC requirements for review. Issues which may emerge may be placed on the agenda of the ARC;

b. The military representatives agreed to inform the Chair regarding their preference for duplicate tapes from system one or participation in the Barton Hall establishment, in the event TPC has not been established by the time operations are underway;

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c. The Chair will consult with [REDACTED] to determine the necessary arrangements which will be required with NSA in the handling of the VHF tapes (system three);

d. At a later date consideration will be given to making available a duplicate tape to theater headquarters.

of System One

* In pursuance of NSCID-17

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Planning and Utilization: Military Services:

(Chairman's memorandum of 19 March 1956)

3. Action: Referenced paper was agreed as a basis for planning subject to the revision of paragraph three changing the last word "seven" to "eight" on the basis of information^{25X1A9a} reported by Lundahl and striking the last sentence on request of [REDACTED] who felt that this sentence was premature pending the development of the security regulations to implement the security principles which had been agreed on at the previous meeting. Mr. Lundahl described the lay-out of Automat space to accommodate the military liaison and PI officers.

4. Colonel Stewart stated that the Air Force would not be sending any PI officers though he would want the Air Force PI officers to be able to consult freely with the CIA PI officers. Mr. Lundahl indicated this was highly desirable and could be arranged. The Chairman requested the Army and Navy to inform him of the number of PI officers they each wished to station in Automat.

Cover Story:

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5. For information the Chair distributed, and later collected, a paper explaining the cover story used in the project. This was read and discussed by those present. [REDACTED] said he appreciated and would consider suggestions made by the members. It was the opinion of those present that an abridged version would be helpful to them.
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6. Action: The Chair asked [REDACTED] to prepare such a paper for distribution to the Committee.

Priorities for Requirements:

(Chairman's memorandum of 22 March 1956)

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7. Action: It was agreed that [REDACTED] would, for convenience of the agencies, sort out from the targets already submitted those which lie within the arc west of Rostov-Gorky. Upon receipt of its list, each originating agency would mark its targets as follows:

I. a, c, and d with regard to those which are essential to highest priority objectives as listed in DCID 4/5 entitled Priority National Intelligence Objectives;

II. a, through f, for those which are essential to the second category of high priority objectives in the same document; and

III. Those which do not fall in the above categories.

Thereupon, the Ad Hoc Requirements Committee will discuss and seek to resolve any major disagreements arising from varying judgements regarding such priority assignments.

It was agreed further that the BE numbers (not priorities) would also be recorded and that it would not be desirable to throw out the ABC priority ratings which were used at the time of submission of the requirement lists.

Radar Photography:

8. The Chairman called attention to the fact that Operations needed advice with regard to military requirements for central processing of Radar photographic film (five inch format).

9. Action: Assuming that arrangements for utilization of the material could be made in this case (as in the case of aerial photography), the Army and Navy stated that their needs could be met through the same arrangements as pertained to aerial photography. The Air Force stated they needed a duplicate negative and duplicate positive as in the case of aerial photography and they would report later on the length and packaging requirements for these.

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JQR:pas (30 March 56)
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